

## FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

# Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

Paula Parker-Sawyers, Executive Director

A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps\* Programs and Community Service Partners

October 20, 2006 Volume 6, Issue 36



Welcome to Friday Night Facts! This morning, the OFBCI welcomed fifteen youth workers from England to our office for a discussion on youth services and volunteerism. Our guests were here as part of the International Youth Workers Exchange, a Lilly Endowment funded program which promotes "Exploring Meaning and Renewal in the Field of Youth Work." Representatives from OFBCI and two of our AmeriCorps programs, Aftercare for Indiana through Mentoring (AIM) and the Peace Learning Center shared information about their work, and how AmeriCorps members help to

serve the community. Afterwards our new friends enjoyed a tour of the Statehouse, and informal discussions about how to best serve youth.

### Seventeen Indiana Colleges and Universities Honored for Service

\*

**Congratulations** to the seventeen Indiana Colleges and Universities who were placed on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for their commitment to community service and hurricane relief efforts in the past year

Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis was one of three schools nationwide awarded the President's Award for Outstanding Community Service. IUPUI was recognized for their wide range of programs which included over 2800 students providing over 53,000 hours of service to the community.

The University of Notre Dame was awarded one of nine Katrina Compassion Awards for Excellence in Hurricane Relief Service for activities to raise awareness and support on campus, and provide direct service in the areas affected by Katrina.

"Hoosiers have always been ready to step up and help their neighbors", said Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels. "These awards are proof that the Indiana tradition of service is being carried forward by a new generation."

#### Other Indiana Honorees:

President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for General Community Service: Earlham College, Richmond; Indiana State University, Terre Haute; Purdue University, Lafayette; Taylor University, Upland.

President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction for Hurricane Relief Service: Indiana State University, Terre Haute; Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis; Purdue University, Lafayette; Purdue University North Central, Westville; Taylor University, Upland.

President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll: Ball State University, Muncie; DePauw University, Greencastle; Franklin College, Franklin; Indiana University East, Richmond; Ivy Tech Community College, Bloomington; Ivy Tech Community College, Kokomo; Manchester College, North Manchester; Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame; University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne; Valparaiso University, Valparaiso.

The President's Honor Roll is co-sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.











Friday Night Facts Page 2

### Reminder on Political Activity by Charities and Churches

The Internal Revenue Service has launched a campaign to remind non-profit organizations of the long standing ban on political activity.

The ban on political campaign activity by charities and churches was created by Congress 52 years ago. The Internal Revenue Service administers the tax laws written by Congress and has enforcement authority over tax-exempt organizations. Here is some background information on the political campaign activity ban and the latest IRS enforcement statistics regarding its administration of this congressional ban.

Currently, the law prohibits political campaign activity by charities and churches by defining a 501(c)(3) organization as one "which does not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office."

The IRS has published <u>Fact Sheet 2006-17</u>, which outlines how churches, and all 501(c)(3) organizations, can stay within the law regarding the ban on political activity. Also, the ban by Congress is on political campaign activity regarding a candidate; churches and other 501(c)(3) organizations can engage in a limited amount of lobbying (including ballot measures) and advocate for or against issues that are in the political arena. The IRS also has provided guidance regarding the difference between advocating for a candidate and advocating for legislation.

#### FREE INFORMATIONAL GUIDEBOOK...

The Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives often receives inquiries from individuals interested in forming a faith or community organization. In response to your requests, we have published Operating a Non-Profit Organization in Indiana.

This free guidebook covers the basic organizational and reporting requirements of the three separate agencies with oversight over Non-Profit Organizations: The Indiana Secretary of State, The Indiana Department of Revenue, and the Internal Revenue Service.

<u>Operating a Non-Profit Organization in Indiana</u> can be downloaded from our website at <u>www.ofbci.in.gov</u>. Printed copies may be requested by calling 317-233-4273.



## 

Thursday, November 16, 2006 from 8 AM to 5 PM
The Blake Hotel, 555 South McDowell Street, Charlotte, NC 28204

On Thursday, November 16, 2006, the White House and the Departments of Justice, Commerce, Agriculture, Labor, Veterans Affairs, Health & Human Services, Housing & Urban Development, Education, and Homeland Security, the Agency for International Development, the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Small Business Administration will host a conference in Charlotte to help social service organizations learn more about President Bush's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. These conferences are geared towards faith-based and community organizations that have no history of applying for government grants, as well as those that have applied, but have not yet been successful.

The conference is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and the deadline is **Friday**, **November 10<sup>th</sup>**. Visit <u>www.fbci.gov</u> to register online or call 202-456-6708 to have a form faxed to you. For further information, call the above listed number, or send an email to <u>fbci@dtihq.com</u>

Friday Night Facts Page 3



# **CALL FOR REVIEWERS!!**

### 2007-2008 AMERICORPS\*STATE PROPOSALS!!

The Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives is seeking individuals to review grant proposals for available AmeriCorps\*State funds. This is an excellent opportunity to network with colleagues in the national service world, learn more about the grant-making process, develop your own grant-writing skills, learn about exciting things happening in national service programs, and contribute your knowledge and experience to our efforts to select high-quality programs for funding.

**What does a Grant Reviewer do?** A grant reviewer helps to evaluate funding applications for AmeriCorps\*State programs in the 2007-2008 program year. Reviewers read, score and evaluate proposals, discuss their findings with a small group of fellow reviewers and a facilitator. The panel then comes to consensus to rank the proposals and recommend them for the next level of review.

What qualifications should Reviewers have? We are looking for a diverse group of reviewers--male and female of all ages, races and ethnicities--that have experience in management of high quality national service or community based programs, and grant writing. For example, they may be community service practitioners, educators, students, youth participants, national service alumni, people working in foundations, or those working on public policy issues. We hope to recruit some reviewers with prior experience working with AmeriCorps programs. However, we are generally seeking people with a variety of experience who can review national service grant applications and determine quality. Reviewers must be comfortable reading a large volume of material in a short period of time and providing analysis in a small group.

Can members currently serving in AmeriCorps or any other streams of service serve as reviewers? No, you must have completed service before being selected as a reviewer. Alumni of the AmeriCorps programs are strongly encouraged to apply to serve as reviewers. We are looking for AmeriCorps members who have completed service by September 1, 2006.

Can people who work for a Corporation for National and Community Service-funded program serve as a reviewer? Yes, people who work for organizations affiliated with other Learn and Serve, AmeriCorps or national service programs may serve as reviewers. For instance, an individual who works for an organization that hosts a VISTA volunteer may review AmeriCorps applications. However, people cannot serve as a reviewer for the AmeriCorps programs if they work for an organization that is being considered for funding in this competition.

What is the time commitment? Reviewers must be available for an orientation conference call on Monday, November 13, 2006 from 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. EST. The purpose of the call is to review the AmeriCorps program and application review expectations. Reviewers will then convene on Tuesday, November 28, 2006 from 9:00 – 3:00 P.M. EST at the Indiana Government Conference Center in Indianapolis to discuss and rank the proposals. Lunch will be provided. The period between the conference call and in-person review session will be dedicated to individual reviewing and scoring the proposals. We estimate that your total meeting, travel and review time will not exceed 25 hours.

What are the benefits to reviewers? The grant review experience is an excellent opportunity to meet and network with colleagues in the National Service field; find out about exciting programming and trends in national service; develop a deeper understanding of the grant-writing and grant-making processes; and to contribute your experience to the selection of high-quality programs throughout Indiana.

If you are interested in serving as a reviewer, please contact Erin Wright, Senior Program Officer, at 317-233-0901 or <a href="mailto:erwright@ofbci.in.gov">erwright@ofbci.in.gov</a> no later than <a href="mailto:Friday">Friday</a>, October 27, 2006.

Friday Night Facts Page 4

\*

# November 2006 — TRAINING CALENDAR\*

Date/Time	Topic	Sponsors	Location	Cost	Contact
Month of November	"Various"	Spirit and Place Festival	Various locations in Indianapolis, IN	Varies	Jennifer Gilles, Program Coordinator Spirit and Place, 317-278-3623 www.spiritandplace.org
November 2 9:00-12:00 pm	Strategic Planning	Decatur County Community Foundation, Inc.	Greensburg Learning Center 422 Central St. Greensburg, IN	\$30	Deadline to register is October 27 www.uwdcin.org
November 2 9:30-10:30 am	Fall Crafts	AYS, Inc. Professional Development Center	4755 Kingsway Drive, Ste. 333 Indianapolis, IN	\$15	Wendy 317-803-3134 x32
November 2 10:45-11:45am	Life Skills	AYS, Inc. Professional Development Center	4755 Kingsway Drive, Ste. 333 Indianapolis, IN	\$15	Wendy 317-803-3134 x32
November 4 9:30-1:30 pm	"Innovative Adoption: Creating Family Traditions in a Multi-Cultural Context"	North United Methodist Church, St. Elizabeth Coleman Pregnancy and Adoption Services	North United Methodist Church, 3808 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN	Free	Deadline for registration is October 27 317-924-2612
November 6 7:00-9:00 pm	"Islamic Philanthropy in a New World Setting"	Lake Family Institute on Faith & Giving at Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, Islamic Society of North America	Park Tudor School, Ayres Auditorium, 7200 N. College Ave. Indianapolis, IN	Free	317-218-8955
November 6 7:30-9:30 pm	"First Monday Music Club: Trends in Arts Marketing & Presentation"	Local Arts Administrators	Hilbert Circle Theatre, The Wood Room 45 Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN	Free	Jennifer Gilles, Program Coordinator , Spirit and Place, 317-278-3623 www.spiritandplace.org
November 9 10:45-11:45 am	HelpI've Lost My Space	AYS, Inc. Professional Development Center	4755 Kingsway Drive, Ste. 333 Indianapolis, IN	\$15	Wendy 317-803-3134 x32
November 9 6:00-8:00 pm	"Communication Across Generations"	Planned Parenthood of Indiana, Marion County Health and Hospital Corporation, Asante Children's Theatre, Inc.	Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church, 1901 N. Harding St, Indianapolis, IN	Free will donation of \$5 to help support the Asante Children's Theatre	317-509-7085
November 9 6:30-8:30 pm	"Almost Home: How We Live as We Age"	Center for Aging & Community- University of Indianapolis, WFYI Outreach, CICOA Aging & In-Home Solutions	University of Indianapolis, Rm 010, Schwitzer Student Center, Indianapolis, IN	Free	317-791-5934
November 9 7:00-8:30 pm	"If the Cupboard Were Bare: Creating Sustainable Food Systems"	North United Methodist Church, Indy Sustainable Food Alliance, Earth Charter Indiana, Slow Food Indy	North United Methodist Church, 3808 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN	Free	317-709-3440

<sup>\*</sup>Training Opportunities after November 9th will be in next week's issue.